

MARK DESAULNIER
11TH DISTRICT, CALIFORNIA

COMMITTEE ON EDUCATION AND
THE WORKFORCE
SUBCOMMITTEE ON HIGHER EDUCATION AND
WORKFORCE TRAINING
SUBCOMMITTEE ON WORKFORCE PROTECTIONS

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GOVERNMENT REFORM
SUBCOMMITTEE ON TRANSPORTATION AND PUBLIC ASSETS
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August 26, 2019

621

Ajit Pai
Chairman
Federal Communications Commission
445 12th Street SW
Washington, DC 20554

Chairman Pai:

I am writing to express my support for the Federal Communications Commission (FCC) to adopt a new three-digit dialing code for the National Suicide Prevention Hotline.

As you know, the National Suicide Prevention Hotline provides life-saving support to individuals facing a mental health crisis. With more than 20 veterans taking their lives every day and at-risk youth contemplating and attempting suicide in staggering numbers, it is more important than ever that anyone in need can easily access life-saving support.

As the son of someone who committed suicide over thirty years ago, I have been involved at every level of government to work to increase awareness and encourage the government to do more. I appreciate your recent report to Congress recommending the adoption of 988 as the new three-digit dialing code and agree that making the number shorter will make it easier to remember and increase the likelihood that a person in crisis calls and gets the help they need.

Again, I commend you for your recommendation and would be happy to lend my support and assistance as you plan the rollout and implementation of 988 as a three-digit dialing code for the National Suicide Prevention Hotline.

Sincerely,



Mark DeSaulnier
Member of Congress